Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUDAPE 00014 031436Z

43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

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FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 655

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

AMCONGEN GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, HU

SUBJECT: GOH ON FREE FLOW OF IDEAS

REF: MOSCOW 15881, 15977, AND 16147

- 1. IN YEAR-END MESSAGE ON INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, CARRIED BY PARTY ORGAN NEPSZABADSAG, POLITBURO MEMBER ZOLTAN KOMOCSIN COMMENTS ON WESTERN ATTEMPTS TO SECURE FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION AND PEOPLE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST.
- 2. KOMOCSIN CLAIMS THAT, ALTHOUGH WESTERN COUNTRIES CALL FOR FREE FLOW OF MEN AND IDEAS, THEY DO NOT SPECIFY WHAT THEY MEAN. SAYS "SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, IN FUTURE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 BUDAPE 00014 031436Z

JUST AS WELL AS IN PAST AND PRESENT, WILLINGLY ACCEPT

WORKS OF OUTSTANDING THINKERS AND ARTISTS OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES. IF IT MATTER OF EXCHANGE OF DEMONCRATIC, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL THOUGHTS AND IDEAS AND FLOW OF PEOPLE WHO INSPIRE MUTUAL CONFIDENCE AND UNDERSTANDING, EVERY CONSTRUCTIVE INITIATIVE WILL BE FAVORABLY RECEIVED BY US." HE WARNS, HOWEVER, THAT ATTEMPTS "TO INTERFERE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, TO VIOLATE THEIR LAWS, OR PROVIDE LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR IDEOLOGICAL TURMOIL" WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTED.

- 3. KOMOCSINS'S STATEMENT MOST POSITIVE COMMENT TO APPEAR YET IN HUNGARIAN PRESS WHICH ON FREE FLOW OF IDEAS ISSUE USAULLY REFLECTS VIEWS OF HARDLINER FRIGYES PUJA, RECENTLY NOMINATED FOREIGN MINISTER (BUDAPEST 3951) PERHAPS SIGNIFICANTLY, KOMOCSIN DOES NOT MENTION PUJA'S EARLIER AND OFT-REPEATED CHARGES THAT EFFORTS OF WESTERN COUNTRIES ON HUMAN CONTACTS BUT THIN DISGUISE FOR ATTEMPTS TO SPLIT SOCIALIST SYSTEM. ELSEWHERE IN ARTICLE KOMOCSIN UNDERSCORES PROBLEMS IN CAPITALIST WORLD (E.G., ENERGY CRISIS, MONETARY DIFFICULTIES, INFLATION, TREND TOWARDS INCREASED UNEMPLOYMENT) WHILE EXTOLLING VIRTUES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF SOCIALIST SYSTEM. HIS COMMENTS, HOWEVER, ON DIFFICULTIES IN CAPITALIST WORLD FALL SHORT OF CRITICISM (MOSCOW'S 15881).
- 4. ALTHOUGH HE DOES SAY IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE BECOMES INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT IF AGREEMENT ON EUROPEAN PEACE AND SECURITY ARE ACHIEVED, AND "IN THAT FIELD THERE IS NOT AND THERE CANNOT BE ANY PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE", KOMOCSIN DOES NOT INDICATE SPECIFICALLY WHETHER THERE WILL BE ANY SHIFT BY WP COUNTRIES (READ MOSCOW) FROM DEFENSE TO OFFENSE IN IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE. NEVERTHELESS, HIS REMARKS MAY BE FIRST OUTSIDE OF MOSCOW TO INDICATE THAT SOVIETS HAVE INDEED MADE DECISION TO EASE SOME OF RESTRICTIONS RELEVANT TO CSCE BASKET THREE (MOSCOW 16947.) AS HSWP'S EXPERT ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS KOMOCSIN IS CERTAINLY MAN TO SIGNAL SUCH A SHIFT. YEAR-END ARTICLE IN PARTY ORGAN NEPSZABADSAG ALSO PROVIDE SUITABLE TIMING AND VEHICLE FOR CALLING ATTENTION OF PARTY FAITHFUL TO PROSPECT OF CHANGE ON THIS KEY ISSUE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BUDAPE 00014 031436Z

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